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Mr. M. DEVADASAN :—" Will the Government call for the information?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"If the hon. Member gives more definite particulars, the suggestion will be considered."

Transfer of a depressed class head constable from the Karaikudi Police Station.

* 694 Q.—Mr. M. DEVADASAN: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware that there was only one depressed class head constable in Devakottai division at Karaikudi Police Station and he was transferred abruptly; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons that prompted Government to transfer the only depressed class head constable in the locality where the depressed classes were assaulted, plundered and injured by the Kallar leaders and their men?

A.—(a) The Government have no information.

(b) Does not arise.

Mr. M. DEVADASAN :—" With reference to clause (a) of the question, it is stated in the answer that the Government have no information. May I know whether the hon. Member will call for the information?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I will consider the suggestion."

Alleged oppression of a depressed class head constable by the caste police constables of Aruppukottai.

* 695 Q.—Mr. M. DEVADASAN: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware that a depressed class head constable at Aruppukottai was not allowed by the caste police constables to draw water from the well meant for the use of the Police Force; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken by the Government to establish equality of citizenship in the Police Force?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have no information.

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Medical

Appointment of Oriyas as Assistant and Sub-Assistant Surgeons.

696 Q.—Sriman M. G. PATNAIK Mahasayo: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) how many Assistant Surgeons and Sub-Assistant Surgeons there are in the Presidency maintained out of provincial funds;

(b) how many of them are Oriyas;

(c) how many of the Oriya Sub-Assistant and Assistant Surgeons are Brahmans and how many of them are non-Brahmans;

(*d*) the number of Assistant Surgeons and Sub-Assistant Surgeons maintained out of provincial funds who are working in the district of Ganjam including the Agency Tracts and in the Agency Tracts of the Vizagapatam district;

(*e*) how many of them are Oriyas;

(*f*) whether the non-Oriya Assistant Surgeons and Sub-Assistant Surgeons posted in the Ganjam district including the Agency Tracts and in the Agency Tracts of the Vizagapatam district are required to pass any Oriya test;

(*g*) if not, whether the Government will be pleased to prescribe an Oriya test;

(*h*) whether in making postings to the said area care is taken to select persons who know Oriya; and

(*i*) if not, whether the Government will be pleased to issue directions to post persons who are either Oriyas or who know Oriya?

A.—(*a*) Two hundred and fifty Civil Assistant Surgeons and 555 Sub-Assistant Surgeons (excluding lady doctors).

(*b*) One Civil Assistant Surgeon and six Sub-Assistant Surgeons.

(*c*) The Civil Assistant Surgeon is a Brahman. Of the six Sub-Assitant Surgeons one is a Brahman and the remaining five are non-Brahmans.

	Assistant Surgeons.	Sub-Assistant Surgeons.
(*d*) Ganjam district (including Agency) ...	5	31
Vizagapatam Agency	2	36

(*e*) Three (Sub-Assistant Surgeons)—two in Ganjam and one in Vizagapatam.

(*f*) No. But Sub-Assistant Surgeons employed in the Agency tracts are encouraged to learn Oriya by the offer of rewards.

(*g*) The Government see no necessity to prescribe the test.

(*h*) Yes; as far as possible.

(*i*) The question does not arise.

Irrigation

Classification and increase of water-rates in the Presidency.

697 *Q.*—Mr. C. Satyanarayana Choudari: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Government have classified water sources and increased water-rates in some districts;

(*b*) what are the districts in which this was done and what are the classifications and rates adopted;

(*c*) what is the additional income according to the Government by this increase in water-rates in each district; and

(*d*) what is the provision of law under which the Government have raised water-rates in this way?

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A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The question of the reclassification of irrigation sources is considered at resettlements. In recent years there has been no general reclassification of irrigation sources, except in the *Kadarambam* tract of the Trichinopoly district. As regards irrigation sources in this tract the attention of the hon. Member is invited to paragraph 6 (*a*) of the Special Settlement Officer's report printed in G.O. No. 373, Revenue, dated the 28th February 1927, which has been placed at the disposal of the Press. The scale of water-rates now in force in ordinary tracts is given in note (2) on page 1 of revised Appendix 1 to Chapter 1 of Board's Standing Orders, with which should be read the explanatory note at the head of the appendix. The scale has been in force since 1898.

(*c*) The Government have not the information.

(*d*) The Madras Irrigation Cess Act, 1865, gives the Government power to fix the rates of water-cess.

Public Service

Exemption of copyist examiners, etc., from the Public Service examination.

698 Q.—Mr. M. B. RANGASWAMI REDDIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state whether orders have been issued by the Public Services Commission, exempting copyist examiners, readers, amins and attenders who have passed the Secondary School-Leaving Certificate Examinations, and are now doing duty, from passing the Public Service Examination according to G.O. No. 1302, Public (Special), dated 27th September 1930?

A.—No.

[*Note.*—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

III.—THE VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR 1931-32—*cont.*

DEMAND XVI—ELECTRICITY—RESERVED—*cont.*

The discussion on Demand XVI—Electricity—Reserved was then resumed.

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—"Mr. President, I have given notice of the following cut motion:

'*That the allotment of Rs.* 1,50,500 *for Hydro-Electric Survey be reduced by Rs.* 100 *to consider the desirability of issuing licence for distribution of energy to local bodies or Government itself to undertake such distribution*'.

"Sir, before I come to deal with the question in a general way as to why local bodies should be given preference in the matter of licence for electricity in urban and other areas, I should like to refer to the case of Coimbatore. The question of the supply of electricity to Coimbatore was first mooted in October 1919, when Tata Company applied for licence to undertake the generation of electric power from the Kunda river and to distribute that power to the municipal areas of Ootacamund, Coonoor and Coimbatore. This request of the Tata Company was referred to the municipalities